

# Ron Paul at FFF Conference 2007, Part 3 of 6

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akWUa2t8ag8> (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akWUa2t8ag8>)

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Ron Paul on "Nonintervention: The Original Foreign Policy" at the Future of Freedom Foundation's <http://fff.org> Restoring the Republic, 2007.

While serving in Congress during the late 1970s and early 1980s, Dr. Paul's limited-government ideals were not popular in Washington. He served on the House Banking committee, where he was a strong advocate for sound monetary policy and an outspoken critic of the Federal Reserve's inflationary measures. He also was a key member of the Gold Commission, advocating a return to a gold standard for our currency. He was an unwavering advocate of pro-life and pro-family values. Dr. Paul consistently voted to lower or abolish federal taxes, spending, and regulation, and used his House seat to actively promote the return of government to its proper constitutional levels. In 1984, he voluntarily relinquished his House seat and returned to his medical practice.

Playlist of Paul's lecture: [http://www.youtube.com/view\\_play\\_list?p=3D35CEF81074DA57](http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=3D35CEF81074DA57)

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because they they just don't seem to wake up whether it's on foreign policy or economic policy on personal liberties I I had an interview the other day it was in Houston and it was bunt done by a person I consider an ultraconservative not libertarian so we did a little interview on TV and his biggest beef and one of the things he really wanted to talk about was the stupidity of the drug war and I thought well this is great he all of a sudden realized that it used to be that oh you know if your conservative you can't you can't suggest that there's been some intimidation with with the drug war and yet all of a sudden you know people are starting to talk about this you know if if the people weren't way ahead of the Congress in Washington on this I couldn't possibly a penny lectin because you know both Republicans and Democrats each spent over a million dollars apiece when I was trying to run for Congress in 96 when I came back they spent money and the main attack was you know he doesn't even believe in the federal war on drugs but you know what the people listen to my explanation and I said well I can't stand the drugs and I don't like this but I care about civil liberties and I think the war on drugs is a lot worse than the drugs themselves but people responded in a positive way and I think that's what's happening today I think they're going to respond and are currently responding to finally hear somebody say you know we don't have to go to war continuously and we don't have to bleed there are other options we can actually talk to people and we can actually say to the world you know what we don't have to threaten around with a nuclear first strike

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there's opportunity because in the near future we may face more problems in in the close sense and that is if financially we get into difficulties much more so than we are today I think the underpinnings of our economic system have been eroded but that's a we do have a dollar crisis and we can't afford our Empire that's usually way empires in it wasn't us forcing the Soviets to build missiles that that brought them to to their knees it was the fact that socialism doesn't work well our system doesn't work much better because we have a welfare system that's verging on a socialist system and we're spending the yarn our means so is it will end so when and if that comes if we continue to do the work that we're doing and be in place that these young people will be in position to have an influence on our government by then the government then will

reflect our views and our views are becoming more popular I don't believe you will ever get to the point where you will gradually educate the congressman and you or get enough people in there to exactly reflect these views and then change the country I don't think it works that way it has to work by changing people's attitudes the government we get is the government that we ask for and right now I see a opportunity for the views of liberty and to restore the Constitution to restore the ideas of limited government to restore the notion that markets work well and that's how we can take care of people you know how many how many candidates now are jumping on the bandwagon about national health care you know in last 30 years essentially government's been involving I'm involved in national health care it keeps going downhill it costs more money less people

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downhill it costs more money less people have access to it and the costs are skyrocketing so every time this is noticed they said well we need more government is it ever dawn on that possibly we have some flaws in our medical system because the government's involved in the medical system and we need to get the government out of the medical care system same way in education we have a public school system that worked rather well when it was local and local school boards took care of it it was not unconstitutional do that and local governments handle that and we sort of survived it all but now what do we do we even in the Republican Party they used to have presidents run and say we want to get rid of Department of Education oh but now what we do we get Republicans in we get control the house we get control the Senate and we double the size of the Department of Education and then they wonder why the quality of education goes down to me the most important thing in our efforts is to understand how important individual liberty is so many people come up and we'll get questions and quite possibly even on Tuesday we'll get questions say well what do you think about this group's rights that minority rights gay rights gay marriage all these things and you know as far as I'm concerned as far as all of us should be concerned you know we don't have to worry about that what we should worry about is individual rights everybody has a right to their life in the right to their liberty and we should recognize that the purpose of government not only is to protect Liberty but it ought to really emphasize the protection of your individual privacy unfortunately today government is designed to invade your privacy and protect the secrecy of government and we

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protect the secrecy of government and we need to turn that around I'm convinced if we're to have a non-interventionist foreign policy a non-interventionist policy on our personal liberties and one in economics we first have to get the majority the people to endorse these views as they as they're being in their best interest to do so that I believe is coming there's every reason to recognize that individual liberty is something that we cherish something that we have had a taste of something our country has benefited from and something that we may lose if we're not careful but our numbers are growing there's reasons not to be despondent I think we are so much better off than the Soviet system and the Russians and other countries when they collapse they did not have the same traditions about private property ownership and limited government we have at least a history of that and this is the reason that I'm more optimistic that even in the midst of a crisis we should come out of that out of this much better but in the meantime if we want to do a good job I think the immediate thing that we ought to do is have a president that probably the day after he's sworn in that he would say at least in Iraq no more patrolling the streets of Iraq no more playing policeman and probably on that very same day that president could send out an order to turn the Navy around and get him out of the Persian Gulf bring them away from Iran and then tell the American people that they ought to think about everything that we have done around the world over these many many decades we ought to look at it as if somebody else

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ought to look at it as if somebody else had done it to us what if the Chinese had their Navy in the Gulf of Mexico and what if they had troops on our soil how would we react do you think we would take advantage of our Second Amendment and do a little shooting but it's only would that understanding that the American people will realize the reason that we came home today we're taught our people are taught that if we leave that means we are giving up surrendering and that this is a sign of weakness well I don't know it seems to me the sign of strength might be the willingness to admit a mistake that we went in the wrong direction and that we change our direction and do the right thing the efforts that we make here in the next few months in the campaign I think can be very critical we can rally a lot of troops what will come of it I do not know all i know is that things are going well better than I ever dreamed of and it is to me very encouraging to know that the numbers are out there the remnant is much bigger than I ever dreamed and this is wonderful and this is very encouraging it should encourage all of us to continue our work and effort and there are some and some of my best friends think that politics aren't worth the effort but education as far as I'm concerned is the most important some will work just in education some will work in politics and some will work in both and some will always make the effort but ultimately the true test is changing the people's mind to be convinced that America has been a great nation we can be a great nation but the emphasis always has to be on the protection in the emphasis on individual liberty I thank you very much

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